

Application Serial No. 09/973,622
Amendment dated September 26, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for guiding a funeral planning session, comprising:
 - displaying a base image of a funeral item;
 - superimposing an overlay image of a correlated item over the base image in response to a user selecting the correlated item in such a manner as to form a composite image, wherein the correlated item comprises a physical object capable of being permanently fastened to the funeral item, and the composite image includes a perspective view of the correlated item fastened to the funeral item; and
 - displaying the composite image to a user.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising storing image data selected from a group consisting of: the base image, the overlay image and the composite image, and some combination, thereof, within a database.

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3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, further comprising retrieving the image data from the database.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein superimposing the overlay image over the base image further comprises superimposing the overlay image over a base image comprising a viewing room.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the database is resident at a local computer.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, further comprising initiating retrieval of at least one of the base image and overlay image from the local computer in response to an instruction from a remote network server.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 2, further comprising providing interface programming adapted to enable a user to enter product information to the database in response to user input.

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8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the product information includes image data.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the product information relates to funeral data selected from a group consisting of: a service, a product, and some combination, thereof.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 2, further comprising entering pricing information relating to the funeral and correlated items into the database.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, further comprising retrieving the pricing information from the database.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising designating the correlated item in response to the user selecting a theme.

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13. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the theme is selected from a group consisting of: a hobby, an interest, a religious affiliation, a physical characteristic, an occupation, and some combination, thereof.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 12, further comprising tailoring an aspect of the funeral planning session according to the theme.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 12, further comprising tailoring a display according to the theme.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the images is a photograph.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the items are selected from a group consisting of: a casket, a corner adornment, a cap panel, an urn, an engraving plate and some combination, thereof.

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18. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising generating a comprehensive plan that includes the funeral and correlated items.
19. (Original) The method according to claim 18, further comprising printing the plan.
20. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising prompting user input relating to the funeral planning session.
21. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising overlaying an additional image over the composite image.
22. (Canceled)
23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:
a memory;
a database resident in the memory, the database storing images associated with a plurality of funeral products; and

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a program configured to access the database and retrieve a base image associated with one of the plurality of funeral items, display the base image, and superimpose an overlay image of a correlated item of the plurality of funeral items over the base image in such a manner as to form a composite image, wherein the correlated item comprises a physical object capable of being permanently fastened to the funeral item associated with the base image, and the composite image includes a perspective view of the correlated item fastened to the funeral item, wherein the program is further configured to initiate the display of the composite image to a user.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program retrieves image data stored at the database and selected from a group consisting of: the base image, the overlay image and the composite image, and some combination, thereof.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program accesses the database from a remote network server.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the database is resident at a local computer.

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27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the program initiates the retrieval of the image data in response to an instruction from the remote network server.

28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program provides an interface adapted to enable a user to enter product information to the database.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the product information includes image data.

30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the product information relates to funeral data selected from a group consisting of: a service, a product, and some combination, thereof.

31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program facilitates entering pricing information relating to the funeral and correlated items to the database.

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32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 31, wherein the program initiates retrieval of the pricing information from the database.

33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program determines the correlated item in response to the user selecting a theme.

34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the theme is selected from a group consisting of: a hobby, an interest, a religious affiliation, a physical characteristic, an occupation, and some combination, thereof.

35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the program tailors an aspect of the funeral planning session according to the theme.

36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the program tailors a display according to the theme.

37. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program associates the funeral item with the base image.

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38. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program associates the correlated item with the overlay image.
39. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program generates a comprehensive plan that includes the funeral and correlated items.
40. (Original) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the program initiates printing the plan.
41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program prompts user input relating to the funeral planning session.
42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the program overlays an additional image over the composite image.
43. (Original) The method according to claim 23, wherein at least one of the images is a photograph.

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44. (Original) The method according to claim 23, wherein the items are selected from a group consisting of: a casket, a corner adornment, a cap panel, an urn, an engraving and some combination, thereof.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Canceled)

47. (Canceled)

48. (Currently Amended) A program product for causing a computer to display a composite image of correlated item superimposed over a base image of a funeral item, comprising:

a program configured to access a database storing images associated with a plurality of funeral products and retrieve a base image associated with one of the plurality of funeral items, display the base image, and superimpose an overlay image of a correlated item of the plurality of funeral items over the base image in such a manner as to form a composite image wherein the correlated item comprises a physical object

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capable of being permanently fastened to the funeral item, and the composite image includes a perspective view of the correlated item fastened to the funeral item, wherein the program is further configured to initiate the display of the composite image to a user;
and

a signal bearing medium bearing the program.

49. (Original) The program product of claim 48, wherein the signal bearing medium includes at least one of a recordable medium and a transmission medium.

50. (Canceled)

51 (Canceled)

52. (Canceled)